Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JAKART 08908 080606Z

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5500

SECRETJAKARTA 8908

EXDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY HABIB ONLY

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR ID US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO

REF: JAKARTA 8903

- 1. FROM STADNPOINT FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK AND INDONESIAN DELEGATION GENERALLY, TALKS WITH SECRETARY WERE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. MALIK AND DELEGATION PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED GENEROUS ALLOCATION OF TIME, SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AT DINNER, AND HIS FRANKNESS THROUGHOUT.
- 2. ON CANNOT ALWAYS BE CERTAIN, HOWEVER, HOW MALIK WILL CONVEY KEY ISSUES TO PRESIDENT, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATING TO UNILATERAL PROBLEMS. IN ADDITION, IF MURDANI IS CORRECT, (REFTEL), WE STILL HAVE PROBLEM IF CONVINCING PRESIDENT OF OUR GENUINE INTEREST IN INDONESIAN SECURITY REQUIREMENTS AND OUR POSITION ON TIMOR. I FEAR, ALSO, PRESIDENT FEELS U.S. ELECTION PROCESS HAS BROUGHT TO HALT MOMENTUM OF FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES. I SEE VIRTUE IN ASSURING HIM THAT PROCESS IS CONTINUING AND THAT DIALOGUE WITH U.S. DURING THIS PERIOD STILL IMPORTANT.
- 3. ON BASIS TALK WITH MURDANI, I COULD REQUEST APPOINTMENT SECRET

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WITH PRESIDENT TO REVIEW POINTS I MADE WITH HIM AND TO TOUCH

ON HIGHLIGHTS OF WASHINGTON RALKS. CHANCES OF RECEIVING APPOINTMENT, HOWEVER, WOULD BE ENHANCED IF I HAD PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE. SUCH MESSAGE WOULD ALSO PROVIDE VEHICLE FOR EMPHASIZING POINTS WE CONSIDER MOST SIGNIFICANT IN WASHINGTON TALKS.

- 4. I APPRECIATE THAT THIS MAY NOT BE EASIEST TIME OBTAIN MESSAGE, BUT IN LIGHT FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS I BELIEVE MESSAGE WOULD BE TIMELY AND USEFUL. I THEREFORE PROPOSE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION RECOMMENDATING TO PRESIDENT THAT HE SEND BRIEF MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BELOW. I WOULD REQUEST APPOINTMENT TO PRESENT MESSAGE AND AT SAME TIME COULD ORALLY MAKE POINTS I MADE TO MURDANI, PLUS ANY OTHER POINTS DEPARTMENT WOULD WISH ME TO STRESS. I WOULD PLAN GIVE MALIK COPY OF MESSAGE AT APPROPRIATE TIME.
- 5. IN MY VIEW PRESIDENT WOULD APPRECIATE AND BE RESPONSIVE TO MESSAGE SINCE HE FOLLOWED MEETINGS AND RESULTS CLOSELY.
- 6. SUGGESTED MESSAGE AS FOLLOWS:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

SECRETARY HAS REPORTED TO ME ON CONSULTATIONS
HELD JUNE 29 WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK IN PURSUANCE TO ARRANGEMENTS WE MADE DURING MY VISIT TO INDONESIAN IN DECEMBER 1975.
I AM GRATIFIED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE THESE CONSULTATIONS WHICH SERVED TO FURTHER THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY
RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

AS YOU KNOW, WE ATTACH PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO INDONESIA, ITS ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND TO A CONTINUING AND EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE BETWEEN US. DESPITE LEGISLATIVE PROBLEMS, I AM PLEASED THAT WE ARE ABLE TO CONTINUE AN APPRECIABLE LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE IN BOTH THE ECONOMIC AND SECURITY FIELDS. I SHARE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S HOPE THAT THE TERMS OF ASSISTANCE CAN CONTINUE TO BE IMPROVED

FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK WILL CONVEY TO YOU ALSO THE ATTENTION GIVEN DURING THE DISCUSSIONS TO SIGNIFICANT INTERNATIONAL SECRET

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ISSUES, INCLUDING KOREA, AND THE SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES, I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THE WASHINGTON TALKS HAVE BROUGHT US CLOSER TOGETHER AND THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH EACH OTHER IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WHERE THESE SUBJECTS ARISE. I ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND AND TO RESPOND TO THE CONCERNS OF INDONESIA AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

WE HAVE ALSO FOLLOWED CLOSELY THE EVENTS IN EAST TIMOR. I SHARE YOUR HOPE FOR AN OUTCOME OF THIS PROBLEM SATISFACTORY TO INDONESIA AND TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY.

I HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR NEWSOM, PERSONALLY, TO DELIVER THIS LETTER IN ORDER TO ELABORATE AS USEFUL ON POINTS OF INTEREST TO YOU AND TO TRANSMIT BACK TO ME YOUR OWN VIEWS ON OUR RELATIONS AND PROBLEMS OF COMMON INTEREST.

MRS. FORD AND I CONTINUE TO REMEMBER WITH GREAT PLEASURE OUR VISIT TO INDONESIA. WE SEND OUR VERY BEST WISHES TO YOU AND MRS. SUHARTO. SINCERELY.

7. IF RESPONSE NOT YET SENT TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S JULY 4 MESSAGE REFERENCE COULD ALSO APPROPRIATELY BE MADE IN SUGGESTED METTER.

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